

Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

Published By

THE OTTAWA JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL

JANUARY 28, 1938

Vol. 1, No. 15

SHEBAT 26, 5698

JOSEPH GURION TO BE IN OTTAWA

The recent change of government in Rumania has renewed and intensified the cry of World Jewry that more immigrants be permitted to enter Palestine. To open the gates for persecuted Jews is uppermost in the minds of all and each new wave of oppression adds new weight to their demands.

Emotions often tend to belcloud one's sense of reality, and, in the midst of the loud cries of protest, people fail to realize that, despite the pressing need, immigrants cannot be dumped into the country without adequate preparations being made for their absorption. Sound social, cultural and economic institutions must be established whereby these newcomers can be assimilated. Otherwise, the whole structure collapses neath the sudden weight which is imposed upon it.

It is more than thirty years since a few, far-seeing pioneers laid the foundation of that institution which is playing such a vital role in training and placing these "olim". The activities of the Histadruth are now well-known. State documents attest to the constructive work which that body has done in not only building a new type of society but in enabling the country to take in the refugees. With its far-flung activities, the Histadruth has become the mainstay of Zionist endeavour.

Among those men and women who envisaged this new society was Joseph Gurion, who will be in Ottawa on Feb. 6, 7. Mr. Gurion was in the vanguard among the pioneers and was still on the front lines when he was selected to bring this year's message from the Histadruth to the Jews of this continent. Intimately acquainted with what has been happening in Palestine for a quarter of a century, his message on recent events will be of interest to all of Ottawa Jewry.

Campaign Committee

Your dollar or more will help assure the uninterrupted publication of the 'OTTAWA JEWISH BULLETIN'. Have you subscribed. Do not Procrastinate! Send your remittance to Post Office Box 50, Ottawa.

THIS SABBATH

Parsha Mishpotim
Sabbath M'vorchim

Friday Evening, 8.30 p.m.

"ONEG SHABBAT"

RABBI MENDELL LEWITTES,
of Portland, Maine

will speak
in the Agudath Achim Synagogue,
Rideau Street

on

"THE JEW'S DILEMMA"

* * *

SABBATH MORNING SERMON
in the Agudath Achim Synagogue
Rideau Street

RABBI MARGOLIS will preach on
"Commandments and Conduct"

Schedule of Services

Kindling of Lights.....4.45 p.m.

Sabbath Eve Services.....5.00 p.m.

Sabbath Morning Services

Blessing of the New Moon

Cong. Adath Jeshurun.....9.00 a.m.

Cong. Agudath Achim.....9.00 a.m.

Cong. Machzikei Hadath.....8.30 a.m.

Cong. B'nai Jacob.....8.30 a.m.

Rosh Chodesh Adar will fall on
Tuesday and Wednesday, February
1, 2

YOUNG GUEST RABBI AT 'ONEG SHABBAT' TONIGHT

The weekly Friday evening 'Oneg Shabbat' gathering in the Agudath Achim Synagogue, Rideau Street, will enjoy a rare treat this week.

Guest speaker will be Rabbi Lewittes, Spiritual Leader of the Jewish Community of Portland, Maine. Rabbi Lewittes is a graduate of Yeshiva College where he received both his academic and Rabbinic degrees. He distinguished himself in his studies so as to have been deserving of the valedictory honors at his commencement. Rabbi Lewittes is an outstanding Talmudic student and a splendid preacher. Ottawa Jewry will glean much joy and inspiration from his address, which bears the provocative title, 'The Jew's Dilemma'.

A. J. FREIMAN AGAIN ZIONIST PRESIDENT

Mrs. Freiman, O. B. E. Continues
As Hadassah President

Mr. A. J. Freiman was re-elected for his 20th year as president of the Zionist Organization of Canada on Monday afternoon at the 25th Convention of that body, held in the Chateau Laurier.

At the closing of the Hadassah Convention, the following day, Mrs. A. J. Freiman, O. B. E., was unanimously elected president for her 21st year, of Canadian Hadassah.

Both Conventions ended their deliberations with the adoption of significant resolutions affecting the progress of the organizations and the development of augmented activities on behalf of Palestine. Lively and interesting debates and discussions were held in connection with the more important resolutions. All the arguments and addresses reflected a pleasingly high plane of intellectual and practical interest most gratifying to all the delegates and guests.

A tremendous number of guests attended the closing Banquet on Monday evening in the Grand Ballroom of the Chateau Laurier. Dr. Bernard Joseph, counsel to the Jewish Agency for Palestine, and Rabbi Solomon Goldman, of Chicago, were the guest speakers, with Mr. Freiman acting as toastmaster. Both speakers roused the audience to a great peak of Zionist sentiment and enthusiasm as they pictured the vital necessity for unceasing effort on behalf of Eretz Yisroel.

Ottawans elected to the Zionist National Council were: Mrs. Lawrence Freiman, Alex. Betcherman, Rabbi William Margolis, L. S. Greenberg, Sam Lepofsky, Lawrence Freiman, O. Petigorsky and Sam Berger, K.C.

Ottawans elected to the Hadassah National Council were: Mrs. Lawrence Freiman, Mrs. A. H. Coplan, Mrs. M. Sanders, Mrs. Benjamin Goldfield, Mrs. H. Goldenberg, Mrs. Gordon Caplan, Mrs. S. Torontow, Miss A. Applebaum, Miss Eileen Rivers, Mrs. S. J. Ritt, Mrs. Zachary Rill, Mrs. S. Cohen, Mrs. A. H. Lief, and Mrs. S. Coplan.

The Ottawa Jewish Bulletin

Published every Friday by

The Ottawa Jewish Community Council.

William Margolis, Rabbi

A. J. Freiman.....President
C. Caplan.....Vice-president
Thomas Sachs.....Vice-president
J. R. Fogle.....Treasurer
Benjamin Pearl.....Hon. Secretary
L. Harry Goldman.....General Secretary

All correspondence to the Ottawa Jewish Bulletin should be sent to P.O. Box 50, Ottawa. To insure attention all material must reach this address before Monday of the week of publication date.

POST-CONVENTION THOUGHT

It was as we expected. It was a gathering of earnest Jews and Jewesses who knew when to sing, when to speak, when to be silent. It was an event significant in its timely import, vital in its promise of the future, phenomenal in its record of things done, unusual in the lofty educational and inspirational quality. It was, in fact, the finest convention we have had the privilege of attending, in the course of a rather copious career.

In matters idealistic, the 'doing' is sometimes more important than the results of the doing. It may be that this is the real value of the much homilized phrase attributed to Israel at Mount Sinai—'Naaseh Venishma'—'We shall do, and then we shall hear'. All the emphasis was laid on the 'doing' of God's will; the understanding of it could come later. A similar principle is the one stressed by that prince of contemporary American thinkers, Professor John Dewey, of Columbia, whose famous slogan for a healthy social philosophy is, 'Learn By Doing!' In the realm of psychology, the significance of 'habit-training' is constantly demonstrated as a more important essential than the understanding of the purpose of the habit. And our great Sages and Teachers emphasized the same idea in their repeated underscoring of 'lechancham be-mitzvoh'—training in the performance of mitzvoh, the values of which reveal themselves, ultimately.

Not every one who attended the Canadian Zionist Convention may have appreciated the full, ultimate values of the sessions. Many may not have gathered the complete import of the Debate on the Royal Commission Report, for example. Not all may have fully appreciated the penetrating wisdom and vision of Mr. Freiman's address. What is infinitely more important, however, is the fact that the Debate was featured for a whole afternoon, and the fact that Canadian Zionists are blessed with the kind of wise and statesmanlike leadership that the Convention reaffirmed.

Of permanent, priceless value was the fact that hundreds of Zion-hearted Jews and Jewesses were present at a Canadian Sinai, last week, and unanimously said, 'Naaseh—we shall do!'

IS SHYLOCK JEWISH?

Ever since Shylock was born of the immortal pen of Shakespeare, this has been a moot question among both Jews and non-Jews: 'Was Shakespeare an antisemite?' Shakespearian scholars who have delved into the possible relationships which the great bard may have had with Jews, are mainly of the opinion that Shakespeare, in all likelihood, never met a Jew in his life. Whatever impressions he had concerning our people were from hearsay. Nor is it generally concluded that he intended to portray Shylock in the villainous role so many conceive.

Whatever the evidence, it is a tragic truism that for centuries, the most despicable methods of money-lending, blood-sucking, flesh-exacting, were associated with Jews. And, thanks to a few of our too enterprising coreligionists in New York and Toronto, Jewish names connected with 'Shylocking' have been recently appearing on the front pages of the newspapers.

We Jews need no defense against the specious charges levelled against us on the basis of individual offenders. Nor do we seek or expect any special sympathies for the few of our faith who have been caught with non-kosher 'pounds of flesh'.

We do wish, however, that we could be given an opportunity to teach a certain piece of 'Perek' (Ethics of the Fathers) to our generalizing Gentile 'friends'. We refer to the Rabbinic precept: 'The world depends on three things: on the study of Torah, on the practice of Service, and on deeds of Kindness.' If we could but make our Shakespearian pseudo-scholars understand how fundamental is the practice of G'miluth Chasodim, the 'deeds of kindness' which refer to the lending of money without interest, in Jewish life! We could bring them proudly to our own community, and show them the beautiful record of the Ottawa G'miluth Chasodim Society, and then say to them, 'Here—judge us by this, if, indeed, you have the right to judge us!'

Shylock is a specie of freak which occasionally finds its way into Jewish germ plasm. We Jews are entitled to our rare share of abnormals, which is far below the proportion of other races. We do not apologize for them. They are not of our kind. Our money-lending policy, as a people, is based on the principles of 'Brotherly Love', not as a sweet-sounding credo to prate about from pulpit and on paper. Every G'miluth Chasodim Society is a living, practical example of the Jewish attitude on the subject. And no Shylock has ever been a member...

We felicitate our G'miluth Chasodim Society on the occasion of its annual celebration. We hail this group as one of the fundamental forces in our communal life that is, in practice, as well as in theory, the true exemplification of humane Jewishness. Our classic concept of G'miluth Chasodim is the only one of any faith that fulfills the business of Religion, which is, after all, to bring more Religion into business.

William Margolis

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

Items for inclusion in this column must be sent to P.O. Box 50, Ottawa before Monday of the week of publication

Every Sunday

Breakfast Club—Service and Breakfast for boys 13-17, at 9.00 a.m. sharp, Agudath Achim Synagogue, Rideau Street.

Bath Mitzvah Girls—course in customs and ceremonies, at 10.30 a.m., Agudath Achim Synagogue, Rideau St. Chug Ivri. Directed by Mr. Israel Lief, principal of Talmud Torah. For adults, from 3 to 5 p.m.

Every Wednesday

Women's Bible Circle in the Talmud Torah Hall, two o'clock sharp in the afternoon.

'Blatt Genara' in Yiddish, conducted by Rabbi Margolis, 8 o'clock sharp in Machzikei Hadath Synagogue, Murray Street.

Bath Mitzvah Girls—History of Jewish Personalities, 7.15 to 8.30 p.m.

Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, King Edward Avenue. Directed by Mr. Herman Roodman.

Every Thursday

Men's Talmud Class in English, conducted by Rabbi Margolis, 8 o'clock sharp in Agudath Achim Synagogue, Rideau St.

Every Saturday

Older pupils of the higher Hebrew Classes are urged to attend the Ivriah Club. Also under direction of Mr. Israel Lief, Principal of Talmud Torah. Saturday nights from 7 to 8 p.m.

Sunday, January 30

Tea sponsored by Ladies of The Free Loan Society, Talmud Torah Hall 3.00 p.m.

Tuesday, February 1

Y.P.L. meeting. Talmud Torah at 8.15 p.m. Rabbi Margolis directing class. General meeting 9.00 p.m.

Thursday, February 3

A. Z. A. Membership Drive at 8.30 p.m. in the Talmud Torah Hall. Everybody welcome.

Sunday, February 6

Noveltea Dance. Sponsored by Aleph Zadik Aleph. Talmud Torah Hall from 4 to 7 p.m. The community is cordially invited.

Sunday, February 13

Annual Dinner of Agudath Achim Synagogue. Open to members and seat-holders. Talmud Torah Hall at 6 p.m.

FREE LOAN SOCIETY ANNUAL FESTIVITIES

This week-end will mark the Annual G'milluth Chasodim Sabbath, dedicated to the Ottawa Free Loan Society. As always on 'Sabbath Mishpotim', the members and friends of the Society will gather in the Agudath Achim Synagogue for services, and will be the guests of the ladies of the Society at a special Kiddush.

Rabbi Margolis will deliver a special sermon suited to the occasion, and a visiting Cantor, Rev. Jacob Lev, of Toronto, will officiate at the services.

On Sunday evening, the ladies of the Free Loan Society will be hostesses at a beautifully arranged Tea to be held in the Talmud Torah Hall, to which the entire community is cordially invited. A very handsome turnout is expected and Rabbi Margolis will be the guest speaker.

* * *

CONVENTION SABBATH BEAUTIFULLY IMPRESSIVE

A stupendous crowd of 'Oneg Shabbatarians' jammed the doors of the Agudath Achim Synagogue, last Friday evening, to hear an excellent address by Rabbi Jesse Schwartz, Executive Director of the Zionist Organization of Canada, on 'Roots of Zionist Sentiment.'

The evening was featured by the singing of a number of lively Palestinian songs in which the entire audience joined enthusiastically. The happy hundreds left the Synagogue that evening, humming 'Zingthe Alle Yidelach'.

On Sabbath morning, an unusually large attendance in the tastefully decorated Adath Jeshurun Synagogue King Edward Avenue, marked Convention Sabbath. A Convention sermon on the subject, 'When Jews Gather For Palestine,' was delivered by Rabbi Margolis, and the atmosphere for the Zionist Convention was considered set.

* * *

DAVID LEWIS WILL ADDRESS Y.P.L. TUESDAY

The regular History Discussion Group of the Y. P. L. will meet for an evaluation of 'David—King and Psalmist', Tuesday evening, at 8.15 sharp in the Talmud Torah Hall.

Guest speaker for the evening will be Mr. David Lewis, who will speak on, 'Has Democracy Betrayed Spain and China'. A most stimulating and enjoyable evening is assured to all who will attend.

A.Z.A. MEMBERSHIP PLEA TO FATHERS AND SONS

If we want our boys to grow up to be fine, outstanding Jews, the founders of the future Jewish homes, the civic and communal leaders who will succeed us, the men who will become the leaders of the B'nai B'rith grand lodges of a dozen years hence, then we want our youth of today to have the Aleph Zadik Aleph training and background. We want them to learn the art of being a Jew through Jewish environment, surcharged with the Jewish spirituality and brought home to the youth through play, self-expression and wholesome atmosphere.

The age of latter adolescence, which is the age of A.Z.A. eligibility, is considered the dangerous age for young men. It is the age of budding worldliness, blossoming ambition and ripening impulses. It is in this age that the boy must be watched, guided, influenced aright. And the active influence of A.Z.A. has already begun to bear its fruits. It has graduated into B'nai Brith, and into the community at large, its finest leaders and most useful citizens. No Jewish lad between the ages of 16 and 21 ought to be without the ranks.

The ideals of A.Z.A. are elaborated in the following seven principles and virtues: Judaism, Patriotism, Filial Love, Charity, Purity of Body, Mind and Soul, Loftiest Conduct and Fraternity.

B'nai Brithite

* * *

CANTOR THIS SABBATH IN CONG. AGUDATH ACHIM

Congregation Agudath Achim, on Rideau Street, extends a cordial invitation to the entire community to attend services this Sabbath. Cantor Jacob Lev of Toronto will officiate both on Friday evening and Sabbath morning. An enjoyable and inspirational Sabbath is assured to all who will be present.

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HAVE YOU?

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CONVENTION HIGHLIGHTS

The Twenty-fifth Convention of the Zionist Organization of Canada opened, last Sunday morning, with the singing of Hatikvah and God Save the King. These anthems, in all candor, are usually sung in perfunctory manner—part of the formal program. Not so last Sunday morning. Hatikvah was sung as though every syllable brought Israel a dunam in Palestine. And God Save the King was a genuine echo of the gratitude of Canadian Jewry for the privilege of living under the emancipating banner of freedom that is Britain.

* * *

If ever there existed in the mind of anyone the question—'Is A. J. Freiman rightly considered by world Jewry Canada's best-fitted Jewish spokesman?'—Then that question must have been dispelled forever, after Mr. Freiman's Presidential Address. Never, from any platform, was any section of Jewry privileged to hear a more statesmanlike analysis and charge to Jewish leadership. This is the opinion, not only of the hundreds who heard the address, but of inveterate speech-makers who are usually real 'mevinnim'.

* * *

The debate on the Royal Commission's Report and the proposed plan of Partition constituted a delightful departure from conventional conventions. Conducted on a remarkably high level of logical analysis and lucid presentation, the papers of all four speakers revealed painstaking preparation, and held the keen attention of the delegates and visitors. This debate will go on record as a valuable cultural contribution to the convention program—too rare in the case of not other Jewish gatherings.

* * *

Very few dry eyes were in evidence at the opening session of the Hadassah Convention as Mrs. A. J. Freiman, O.B.E. delivered her Presidential Address. Through the minds of all present flashed the recollection of Mrs. Freiman's severe illness of recent years. The tear-dimmed eyes of adoring women, the intense faces of admiring men, the beaming, 'quelling' countenance of Mr. Freiman—these are human pictures one cannot forget. God has been good, indeed, to Canadian Israel...

* * *

The joyous singing and dancing to Palestinian music, the brilliant addresses of Dr. Joseph and Rabbi Goldman at the glorious, closing Banquet, the general sentiment that 'this was the finest convention of them all', makes one proud and happy to have been privileged to be alive in Ottawa during the past week..

An Ottawa Delegate.

WITH OUR ORGANIZATIONS

Adath Jeshurun Sunday School

The Adath Jeshurun Sunday School celebrated Chamisho Osor B'Shevat on Sunday, January 16th, at their Assembly. Rabbi Margolis addressed the pupils during their program which consisted of: A recitation by Enid Betcherman; songs by the Assembly; piano solo by Toby Glick; an address by Bert Loeb on 'Chamisho Osor in Palestine'; a pantomime, presented by Devorah Colle, Mavis Dover, Naomi Beneway, Anne Tarantaur, Selma Tarantaur, Rose Solloway, Muriel Bodnoff, Bertha Sheila Lepofsky, Sally Brill, Betty Baker, Steila Levitan, and Pearl Gold. A fruit treat was donated by Dr. C. Glickman.

The sessions henceforth will begin at 10 o'clock as in former years.

At a staff meeting of the Adath Jeshurun Sunday School, it was decided to form a new class for pupils between the ages of eleven and twelve years, which is to be a preparatory class to next year's Bath Mitzvah Group.

* * *

Lord Reading Club

Mrs. Max B. Margosches will be at Home this Sunday afternoon from 4 to 6 o'clock for the benefit of the Educational Fund of the Lord Reading Club.

* * *

Ladies' Auxiliary B'nai Brith

The regular monthly meeting of the B'nai Brith Women's Auxiliary, Lodge No. 62, will be held at the residence of Sister Nellie Finestone, 455 Besserer St., on Wednesday Feb. 9, 1938, at 8.30 p.m. It will be appreciated if all members will pay their dues to date, as the report must be forwarded to the Grand Lodge.

This meeting will be of especial interest to each and every member since the Nominating Committee will bring in its slate of Officers for the following year. Only members in good standing will have the privilege to vote and nominate delegates to attend the Convention which takes place in Toronto next May.

* * *

Junior Congregation

David Loeb, David Rabin and Jacob Krantzberg officiated for the Junior Congregation last Sabbath as chazonim at the morning services. Master Sidney Slover delivered a talk to the interest of all. Kiddush was offered by Mrs. H. Finklestein, assisted by Mrs. L. Fine, Mrs. H. Toronto, and Mrs. Esther Mirsky.

Parents' Day

The opportunity of visiting Class 1 of the Ottawa Talmud Torah has been extended to parents of those pupils and the open session will continue this Sunday morning at 11 a.m.

* * *

Chug Ivri

The Chug Ivri will convene once again at 4 o'clock in the afternoon on Sundays in the Talmud Torah Hall. The topic for discussion will be Samuel, the Prophet.

* * *

Ivriah Club

Two of the pupils, Lazer Loeb and David Lieff, at last Saturday's class, gave short papers in Hebrew of Jewish interest.

* * *

Annual Dinner Agudath Achim

Agudath Achim members, seatholders, and their wives will gather together at the Talmud Torah to participate in the joyous event of the Annual Dinner of the Congregation. This gay festivity will begin at 6 o'clock on Sunday evening, February 13th. Further particulars will be forthcoming.

* * *

A.Z.A. Membership Drive

Aleph Zadik Aleph is zealously working to attain as many new members as possible between the ages of fifteen and twenty-one. A Membership Drive will be carried on at the Talmud Torah on Thursday evening, February 3rd, at 8.30. A complete program of entertainment is in store for all boys who are interested in the local A.Z.A.'s activities. The meeting will be ended with the serving of refreshments.

* * *

A.Z.A. Tea Dance

The community is anxiously awaiting the opportunity of enjoying the afternoon, at the Talmud Torah, of the local chapter of Aleph Zadik Aleph's Tea Dance, scheduled for Sunday, February 6th, from 4 to 7 o'clock. Dancing will be of greater pleasure due to the installation of a Wurlitzer Machine, procured by the members of the club. Everyone is cordially invited to participate in the afternoon's entertainment.

* * *

Breakfast Club

Services this Sunday morning of the Breakfast Club will take place in the Adath Jeshurun Synagogue, King Ed. Avenue. Mrs. L. Baker, Mrs. Max Feller, and Mrs. J. Ginsburg have kindly offered to be hostesses for the breakfast to be served the young boys.

The Beauregard Press.